

1. (Currently Amended)An elevator system serving a plurality of floors (12) in a building, comprising:

at least one hall device on each of said floors; and

a controller (18);

characterized by:

at least one piconet module (15, 16) on each of said floors, at least one said piconet module interconnected with at least one said hall device on the corresponding floor to transmit and receive elevator system operation-related control signals, said defined piconet modules forming piconets with others of said defined piconet modules thereby serving as a floor-to-floor communication system, in which transmissions by any one of said defined piconet modules may be received by others of said defined piconet modules and retransmitted thereby; and

a defined piconet module (19) interconnected with said controller, said controller thereby communicating, through said defined piconet module interconnected therewith, with any other of said piconet modules, either directly or through still another one or more of said defined piconet modules, whereby said elevator system operation-related control signals will be communicated between said defined piconet modules interconnected with said at least one hall device on any of said floors and said defined piconet module interconnected with said controller wherein said piconet modules are arranged wherein the failure of any one piconet module does not prevent floor-to-floor communication.

2. (Original)A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

a personal digital assistant (PDA) having a defined piconet module (58) and containing maintenance-related programs enabling a user thereof to extract information about the elevator system from the elevator system, to issue executable commands to the elevator system, and to reconfigure the elevator system.

3. (Original)A system according to claim 1, further comprising:

at least one remote control device having a defined piconet module (54) and configured to communicate requests for elevator service.

4. (Original)A system according to claim 3 wherein said remote control device is configured to receive acknowledgments of accepted requests for service.

5. (Original)A system according to claim 1 further comprising:

a plurality of safety devices, each interconnected with a related defined piconet module (43, 44, 47, 48-50), said safety devices and related defined piconet modules comprising a safety chain, said related defined piconet modules forming piconets with others of said defined piconet modules and serving with said others of said defined piconet modules as said floor-to-floor communication system.

6. (Original)A system according to claim 1 further comprising:

a plurality of hoistway doors, at least one on each floor, a door lock switch associated with each of said doors, a defined piconet module (50) interconnected with each said

door lock switch, forming piconets with others of said defined piconet modules and serving with said others of said defined piconet modules as said floor-to-floor communication system.

7. (Original)A system according to claim 1 further comprising:
an elevator car (31) having a car operating panel (32) with at least one defined piconet module (40) interconnected therewith, forming piconets with others of said defined piconet modules and serving with said others of said defined piconet modules as said floor-to-floor communication system.

8. (Original)A system according to claim 1 further comprising:
an elevator car (31) having at least one car door and a defined piconet module (43) interconnected with at least one said car door, forming piconets with others of said defined piconet modules and serving with said others of said defined piconet modules as said floor-to-floor communication system.

9. (Original)A system according to claim 1 wherein:
there is one piconet module (15, 16, 50) on each of said floors, each interconnected with one or more hall call buttons and a hoistway door lock switch on said floor.

10. (Original)A system according to claim 9 further comprising:
a gong; and wherein
said piconet module (15, 16, 50) is interconnected with said gong.

11. (Original)A system according to claim 9 further comprising:
one or more lanterns; and wherein
said one or more lanterns are interconnected with said piconet module (15, 16, 50).

REMARKS

The subject paper is submitted in response to an Office Action dated April 30, 2007. The Examiner objected to the drawings for failure to comply with 37 CFR 1.84 (a) Applicant has amended the drawings to include labels for the blank rectangular boxes and/or merely numbered boxes. Applicants submit replacement sheets 1-2 containing Figures 1 and 2 with the boxes properly labeled. Annotated drawing sheets 1 and 2 showing the changes in red line form are also submitted herewith.

The Examiner also rejected Claims 1-11 under 35 USC 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Schuster et al (6868945 and Crenella et al (660167). Applicants submit amended Claim 1 and previously presented claims 2 - 11 for further consideration.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the further limitation that the piconet modules are arranged wherein the failure of any one piconet module does not prevent floor-to-floor communication. This feature provides a more robust wireless system that is self-healing and allows for wireless communication even when a piconet module should fail.

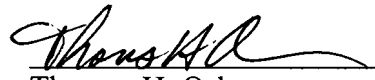
None of the prior art of record teaches or suggests this arrangement of piconet modules that allow for automatic reconfiguration to ensure that communications between floors is maintained. Claims 2 – 11 depend from and further limit Claim 1 and therefore also contain patentable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

In consideration of the amendments submitted herewith, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objections and allowance of Claims 1 through 11. Should the Examiner feel a phone interview would be helpful in processing the subject application, please do not hesitate to call the undersigned.

Applicant's Petition for Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and appropriate fee is enclosed herewith. Please charge any additional fees for this statement to Deposit Account No. 15-0750, Order No. OT-4967.

Respectfully submitted,
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